

134. (New) A method of therapeutic or prophylactic treatment comprising the steps:

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(a) implanting a silicon implant having a beneficial substance associated with it, the silicon implant comprising porous silicon of porosity between 4% and 55%; and

(b) allowing the porous silicon to erode for an interval between one month and one year.

135. (New) A method according to claim 134 wherein the silicon implant is allowed to erode over a duration between six months and one year.

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136. (New) A method according to claim 134 wherein the porous silicon has a porosity between 4% and 50%.

137. (New) A method according to claim 134 wherein the porous silicon has a porosity between 4% and 40%.

138. (New) A method according to claim 134 wherein the porous silicon has a porosity between 10% and 40%.

139. (New) A method according to claim 134 wherein the porous silicon has a porosity between 20% and 40%.

diff. invention?

140. (New) A method according to claim 134 wherein a reservoir of beneficial substance is provided in the silicon implant, and a door leading to the reservoir, the door made of silicon material which is corroded in use so as to enable body fluid to contact the beneficial substance in the reservoir.

141. (New) A method according to claim 140 wherein there are a plurality of reservoirs.

142. (New) A method according to claim 134 wherein the beneficial substance is distributed through substantially the whole volume of the material of said implant.

143. (New) A method according to claim 134 wherein the implant comprises substantially entirely porous silicon.